

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

The specification is objected to for failing to provide proper antecedent basis for claimed subject matter and further clarification is required in claims 1 and 12 for the terms ‘opposing sides’ of the strap, ‘lower end’, ‘base member’, and ‘top surface’. Through amendments herein to the specification and claims, the applicants have provided the needed clarification and/or antecedent for these terms. Mostly attributable to the correction of the language for ‘base member’ 6, all paragraphs in the current text of the Detailed Description have at least one correction, and are therefore included herewith in marked-up form, with each paragraph numbered for ready reference. In view of these amendments, as itemized below, the applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw her rejection of the specification.

The Detailed Description of the specification is in large part being amended herein to explain the drawing changes required by the Examiner. In the marked-up Detailed Description provided as a part of this Office Action response, added language is underlined and deleted language shown with ‘strike-through’ markings. The paragraph numbering shown references the Detailed Description text after filing the amendments in the last Office Action response submitted on April 27, 2004. The applicants believe that no new matter has been added by the changes to the specification proposed herein.

Regarding the antecedent identified above, the following action was taken:

1. “opposing sides” – substitute language has been provided in the specification and claims, with the assigned numbers being added to the drawings. The term was replaced by two different phrases, ‘first vertically extending surface’ (relates to web member 10 and is identified by the number 38 in Fig. 21) and ‘second vertically extending surface’ (relates to web member 10, and is identified by the number 36 in Fig. 21).
2. “lower end” - Two lower ends have been distinguished in the specification, drawings, and claims, 46 and 48 (shown in Fig. 21) respectively of ‘first vertically extending

surface' and 'second vertically extending surface'.

3. "base member" – is now consistently and strictly referenced by the number 6 in the drawings and specification, and in the drawings, with a 'base extension' being distinguished therefrom and marked with the number 4 (both are shown in Fig. 1).
4. "top surface" – refers to the wedge and is identified by the number 28 in the specification and claims (and is shown in Figs. 14, 15, and 21).